



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY 2006 PUBLIC HEALTH CHAMPION AWARDS



Public Health Services Mission: "Protect and enhance the health of the community by promoting health, preventing disease and communicating public health information."

The County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) is proud to announce the 6th Annual Public Health Champion Awards. This honor recognizes extraordinary achievements, by an individual or organization, in areas of public health services that protect and promote the health of the local population. The awards were created to recognize the role of public/private collaboration in advancing optimal health and wellness in the County's diverse populations. This year's theme award will recognize achievements related to the 2006 National Public Health Week theme: *"Designing Healthy Communities, Raising Healthy Kids."* The theme will focus on the ways that well-built communities – with healthy homes, walkable streets and safe neighborhoods –can improve the health of children.

The Public Health Champion awards will be presented on April 7, 2006, at the County Administration Center, 1600 Pacific Highway Room 310, San Diego, CA 92101. Award winners will be individually recognized, and each recipient's name will be added to the permanent plaque located in the HHS Health Services Complex lobby.

General Criteria for Nominees:

Candidates for the Public Health Champion Awards may be individuals (community leaders/representatives), or organizations (from the private sector or government) and must:

- Live and work in San Diego County
- Exemplify exceptional achievement, longstanding excellence, outstanding leadership, and have made contributions that have advanced the community's health
- Demonstrate lifetime (minimum of 10 years) and/or career achievements in protecting and promoting the health of the population.

Prior nominees, who were not award winners, are again eligible for nomination. Previous award winners are not eligible.

Awards are given to candidates in the following four categories*:

1. Public Health Champion Award – Theme: *"Designing Healthy Communities, Raising Healthy Kids"*
2. Public Health Champion Award - Individual
3. Public Health Champion Award – Organization
4. Public Health Champion Awards – Regional (one award given in each of the six HHS regions)

**Note: HHS employees are not eligible.*

Category Criteria:

All nominees are required to have a minimum of 10 years of experience in public health.

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1. Public Health Champion Award – Theme: “*Designing Healthy Communities, Raising Healthy Kids*”

This award is designated for an individual or organization that has demonstrated outstanding contributions in the area related to the theme of the annual National Public Health Week. The 2006 award winner should exemplify achievements that have made a difference in encouraging the development of well-built communities – with healthy homes, walkable streets and safe neighborhoods – that can improve the health of children.

2. Public Health Champion Award – Individual

This award honors an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the prevention of disease, or injury and/or the promotion of health, in the San Diego community. Nominees may be professional/nonprofessional, community leaders or representatives, or volunteers. Nominees may be educators, volunteers, health professionals, administrators, journalists, doctors, lawyers, or community organizers.

3. Public Health Champion Award – Organization

This award honors a community organization that has made outstanding contributions to the prevention of disease, or injury and/or the promotion of health, in the San Diego community. Nominees may be public, private or not-for-profit. The organization may represent education, social welfare, journalism, medicine, law, a community organization or other appropriate entity.

4. Public Health Champion Awards - Regional

Nominations are submitted by the Regional General Managers of the six HHSA regions. This award acknowledges individuals or organizations that have made outstanding contributions to the prevention of disease, or injury and/or the promotion of health, in their targeted areas. This award is restricted to individual or organizations that have a working relationship with one of the six HHSA regional public health facilities. One winner from each region will be selected.

Selection Process:

A representative panel of peers, who characterize the local public health system, will review all nominations and select award winners. The panel includes representatives from the community as well as HHSA.

Nomination Procedure:

Individuals, organizations, or any community group may submit nominations for any category of the Public Health Champion Awards (except the Regional Award). Only complete nomination forms and letters will be considered and must include achievements and the public health impact made by the candidate, as well as the specific criteria described below.

Nominations should include:

1. Nomination form
2. Nomination letter – stating specific rationale/justification for the candidate’s nomination for one of the categories above. The letter should include information on the candidate’s public health background/experience, volunteer efforts (non-paying activities outside of work duties), and/or career achievements (activities above and beyond normal work activities), and prior awards. Also, the letter should provide results or outcomes from these efforts such as number served or number reached by the activities, programs developed, changes implemented, policies enacted, and the significance of these contributions in improving the health of the community. Information on the candidate’s active involvement in the

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community as well as any previous recognition by the community served by the candidate, should be included.

3. Letters of support, stating specific reasons for the candidate's nomination.
(Letters may be addressed to the 2006 Public Health Champion Award Selection Committee.)
4. The candidate's resume or Curriculum Vitae is strongly recommended, but not required.

Additional materials may be included with each submission, however, they should be concise.

The nomination form and criteria are available from Public Health Services by calling 619-285-6573 or from regional HHSA offices. Forms will also be available by January 9, 2006, on the HHSA Website at <http://www2.sdcounty.ca.gov/hhsa>. Go to "All Services A-Z" and look for "Public Health Champions. "

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Please complete one form for each nominee and submit, with nomination letter, no later than Wednesday, February 15, 2006 to:

Mona Thabit, MPH
County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency
Public Health Champion Awards Selection Committee
M.S. S-555
P.O. Box 85222
San Diego, CA 92186

Timeline for Awards:

February 15, 2006	Deadline for submission of applications
March 10, 2006	Finalists and submitters notified by letter
April 7, 2006	Public Health Champions Awards Ceremony County Administration Center, Room 310 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

If you have any questions, please call 619-285-6573.

***Thank you for your support in recognizing our local
public health champions!***